

REMARKS

This paper is responsive to the Office Action mailed April 24, 2007. Claims 39-52 are pending in the subject application. Claims 39-49 are allowed. Claims 50-52 have been amended. Reconsideration of Claims 50-52 in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Examiner Interview

Applicant thanks the Examiner for his time on July 2, 2007 to discuss the proposed claim amendments.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 101

The Office Action rejected claims 50-52 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. The Office Action stated that Claims 50-52 are not limited to tangible embodiments.

Applicants have amended claims 50-52 to limit the claims to tangible embodiments. Specifically, claims 50-52 are amended to change "a computer program product" to "a computer-readable storage medium."

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 50-52 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

Application No. 09/693,713
KUNIHICO MIYAZAKI *et al.*
Reply to Office Action of April 24, 2007

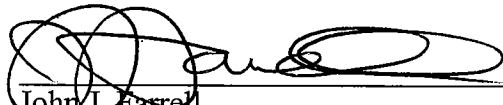
PATENT

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 206-467-9600.

Respectfully submitted,

7/18/07

Date



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